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municipal problems. So the reader can understand other influences on the decision-making process, the positions on community issues taken by the banks, the chamber of commerce, and the newspapers are described. Much of the remainder of the book is a detailed description of actors and activities associated with consolidation and annexation issues prevalent in the community at various times.

The amount of detail often makes reading difficult, but this case study should be of interest to students of the dynamics of decision-making in communities. Of particular value is the appended methodology section in which the authors indicate how they gathered their data, and difficulties they encountered as participant observers. The methodological considerations might have been more useful as a part of the Introduction, but the reader can always read them before the rest of the materials.

STRATIFICATION AND SOCIAL MOBILITY

SOCIAL STATUS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDER. By B. P. Dohrenwend and B. S. Dohrenwend. New York: Wiley, 1969. 207 pp. $9.50.

Reviewed by AUGUST B. HOLLINGSHEAD, Yale University

This volume is, in large part, a book about books. The Dohrenwends examined forty-four empirical studies that were concerned with "true prevalence" of psychological disorders in diverse population groups in many parts of the world. In an orderly and well-developed discussion, they compare the results of these studies in an attempt to determine the relative importance of heredity and social environment as measured by status position in the etiology of psychological disorders.

The many findings reported in the forty-four studies were so confused and contradictory that the Dohrenwends turned to data available to them from studies made in New York City for a test of their conclusions that the studies extant in the literature do not provide an answer to the environment and/or heredity controversy.

The authors test the issue through comparison of relatively advantaged and disadvantaged racial and ethnic groups resident in New York City, more particularly in the Washington Heights section. They state and test two hypotheses: (1) environmental factors are primary in the etiology of psychological disorder: (2) genetic factors are primary in the etiology of psychological disorder. The results of the Dohrenwends' research support the social causation alternative, but they believe this conclusion may be questioned on methodological grounds.

The authors then developed a "nomological net for the construct of psychological disorder" to provide evidence of validity of the measurement of true prevalence. Social conditions that might produce symptoms of stress were studied in a framework of persistent disorders versus situationally specific symptoms: (1) induction of reversible symptoms; (2) the problem of secondary gain and loss; (3) the effects of extreme situations. Evidence is presented to support the assumption that stresses of everyday life produce psychological symptoms rather than the other way around.

The most consistent result found throughout the forty-four previously published studies was the inverse relationship between social status and reported rate of psychological disorder, a relationship that held for overall measures of disorder and also for two major subtypes: schizophrenia and personality disorder. The results of the Dohrenwends' own research in New York City support the social environmental alternative rather than the genetic as the cause of psychological disorders.

This book should be read by behavioral scientists interested in empirical field studies of interdependencies between social conditions under which people live and symptom formation in disorders that cover a wider spectrum than psychological disturbances.

THE AFFLUENT WORKER IN THE CLASS STRUCTURE. By John H. Goldthorpe, David Lockwood, Frank Bechhofer, and Jenifer Platt. Cambridge: University Press, 1969. 239 pp. $7.50.

THE MIDDLE CLASSES. By John Raynor. New York: Humanities Press, 1969. 125 pp. $2.00.

SOCIAL STRATIFICATION IN THE UNITED STATES. Edited by Jack L. Roach, Llewellyn Gross, and Orville P. Gursslin. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, 1969. 621 pp. $9.95.

THE WORKING CLASS. By Gordon Rose. New York: Humanities Press, 1969. 151 pp. $3.75.

Reviewed by JOHN P. ALSTON, University of Georgia

The Affluent Worker in the Class Structure is a work which C. Wright Mills, with a few reservations, would approve. The third volume in a series, this book investigates the question of whether the upper blue-collar occupational class is being absorbed into the middle classes. For their sample, the authors selected atypical workers who are affluent (earning incomes comparable to many white-collars), have job security, had experienced geographic mobility, are consumption-oriented, and are employed in the more progressive industrial sectors. If the "embourgeoisement" process exists, it should be present in this mixed white- and blue-collar sample of *229* workers and their families. Thus selecting respondents who might be the vanguard of the future, the study seeks to indicate future trends rather than to pre-

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